

Committee Gets Parkway Report

A preliminary study on the proposed South Bay Parkway has been unveiled for members of a 10-man advisory committee by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

The report, prepared by the County Road Department, was presented to the committee at the group's first meeting in Chace's Hall of Administration office last Monday.

"This preliminary project study is designed to give us some direction in determining the feasibility and development of a South Bay Parkway," Chace said. "Members of the committee will take these reports back to their cities for study and their recommendations will weigh heavily in the final decisions made," he said.

IN ITS FIRST actions, the committee named Robert Beverly, mayor of Manhattan Beach, as chairman. The five cities represented by their mayor and chamber of commerce president are Torrance, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, El Segundo, and Hermosa Beach.

According to the project report, the parkway could be

Lip Reading, Photography Courses Set

Courses in lip reading and photography will be offered by the extension division of Marymount College, beginning with the spring semester.

The lip reading class will be taught by a new member of the faculty, Miss Virginia Dale Rufin, who also holds the position of speech pathologist at Harbor General Hospital.

Two units of college credit will be given for the course, or it may be audited by interested members of the community. The class will meet Thursday evenings, 7 to 9, beginning Feb. 16.

Extension division photography classes for beginners and advanced students will be taught by L. Andrew Castle, Wednesday afternoons, at 2 and 3, beginning Feb. 15.

Area Schools Winners in Landscape Contest

Three area schools captured honors in the annual Los Angeles City Schools' horticulture contest.

Carson High School rated first in the senior high school division, with team member Ken Lee winning top honors in the individual competition. Other team members were Dennis Allan and Robert Uiloa. Instructor is Earl Havel.

Gardena High School was named third place winner. Team members included Michael Hippe, Irvin Hirsch, and Anthony Licon. Instructor is Ted Weber.

Fifth place winner in the senior division was Narbonne High School. Team members were Robert Broadhead, Steven Rawlinson, and Jerry Sprlet. Instructor is Charles B. King Jr.

developed in four stages at an estimated cost of \$7.8 million to \$10.8 million. Expenditures for right of way are not included in the estimates. The parkway should be built along a 7.6-mile route from Imperial Highway in El Segundo south to the Esplanade in Redondo Beach. The limited-access road should generally follow the route now occupied by the Santa Fe railroad tracks, the report indicated.

"WE BELIEVE the parkway is necessary to serve the South Bay cities with a better north-south traffic artery," Chace told the committee. "Our estimates show that by 1985, as many as 30,000 vehicles would use the parkway."

"It is also our belief that if the county develops a landscaped roadway which served the needs of the community, the state could adopt a more advantageous route for the controversial Pacific Coast Freeway," he said.

The Road Department has recommended that the parkway be constructed six lanes wide, with service roads. Statistics indicate virtually all of the traffic generated by the beach cities will be attracted to a parkway of this width, the report said.

HOWEVER, the report presented four proposals for committee consideration, ranging from a four-lane parkway to the recommended six lanes.

The proposed project is divided into four phases of development — one phase in each of the beach cities.

"Committeemen will study the entire project, with emphasis on their city, and make recommendations on several vital points," Chace said.

"I AM ANXIOUS to get their thinking on feasibility of the over-all project, steps of development and methods of financing," he said. Attending Monday's meeting were:

Mayor Herman McGill and R. C. Long of El Segundo; City Manager Edward Ferraro (for Mayor Albert Isen) and Donald Hyde of Torrance; Councilman Quentin Thelen (for Mayor John de Groot) and Roy Stinnett of Hermosa Beach; Mayor Robert Beverly and William Switzer of Manhattan Beach.

Area Schools Winners in Landscape Contest

White Junior High School paced fifth in the junior high competition. Team members included Bruce Irish, Mary Mullins, and Warren Ono. Instructor is Franklin Yee.

THE THREE-HOUR competition, designed to promote interest in ornamental and landscape horticulture, tested students, both in teams and individually, in the areas of identification of ornamental plants by their botanical names, landscape knowledge, propagation techniques, and weed-insect control.

The competition was sponsored by four Southern California Nurseryman's chapters: Centinela, Sunset, San Fernando, and Los Angeles.

Bill Seeks to Eliminate Household Property Tax

Assemblyman Vincent Thomas (D-San Pedro) this week introduced a bill calling for the exemption of household goods and furnishings from property tax.

"The assessment of household goods and furnishings is the most unjust assessment made under our present tax laws," said Thomas, "in addition, the requirement that household personally be assessed is an invitation to every assessor to violate the State Constitution."

"MOST ASSESSORS do not physically appraise household goods and furnishings," Thomas continued, "and a 1963 questionnaire circulated among county assessors showed that most of them use the 'educated guess' method in making this assessment. This is obviously unjust, and probably unconstitutional."

"Clearly, there can be no relationship between the number of rooms or the value of improvements and the value of the household goods in any house. Yet, the State Constitution specifies that all property is to be assessed in proportion to its value."

"THE TAX on household goods and furnishings raised an estimated \$43 million in revenue for local govern-

ments in 1963," Thomas pointed out, "and this is less than 2 per cent of the total amount raised from property taxes. In fact if county assessors used the traditional method of assessing household goods by on-site inspection, the cost of making the assessment would probably exceed the revenue derived."

"My experience as a member of the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee has convinced me that this tax should be abolished," Thomas emphasized. "It is impossible to really establish the worth of residential personal property. If it were valued at the price it might bring the own-

er on sale, the value would be almost nil.

"THOSE WHO HAVE attempted to sell secondhand furniture, secondhand clothing, and other personal effects can verify this statement."

"Across the nation," Thomas concluded, "at least 18 states entirely exempt household goods and furnishings from taxation. In addition, a number of others have such high exemptions that these items are not taxed. In my opinion, the evidence is overwhelmingly in support of my bill, and this legislation should have been adopted years ago."

TORRANCE MANAGER Injured in Minor Crash

Bret A. Swartz has been named vice president and manager of Bank of America's Torrance branch. He succeeds Bruce Jones, who has been named area administrator for the bank in charge of San Fernando Valley. Swartz has served as manager of the bank's Atlantic-Whittier branch in Los Angeles the past three years.

Redondo Man Injured in Minor Crash

A 47-year-old Redondo Beach man sustained minor injuries Thursday evening when his car collided with a parked vehicle in the 2100 block of Del Amo Boulevard.

Kenneth E. Leaps of 518 S. Juanita Ave., Redondo Beach, was treated at Little Company of Mary Hospital following the accident.

Police said Leaps was driving west on Del Amo Boulevard about 10:15 p.m. when his car collided with a station wagon parked at 2135 Del Amo Blvd.

Area Contractors Install Officers

The annual installation banquet and dinner dance of the Bay Area Chapter of Building Contractors Association of California was held yesterday. Installed as president was J. Stuart Hilliard, general contractor.

and Dick Baker (for Mayor William Czuleger) and Corwin Eberting of Redondo Beach.

Sportsmen To Hear of ROTC Plan

Educational and career opportunities offered by the U. S. Army's Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) will be explained to the Hollywood Riviera Sportsmen's Club next Wednesday.

Lt. Col. Jack M. Goetz, executive officer of the Army's 6325th Information Unit (Reserve), will outline the ROTC program and the advantages of the program to high school youths who can qualify.

Lt. Col. Goetz will speak at a meeting to be held at 8 p.m. Wednesday at the American Legion South Bay Post 184, 412 S. Camino Real, Redondo Beach.

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STORE HOURS: DAILY 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. SUNDAY 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.